

### Bike and Walk to School Day

Thief River Falls participated in the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Bike and Walk to School Day on May 2, 2024. Minnesota Safe Routes to School is an effort to improve walking and bicycling conditions for youth and to encourage more active lifestyles. The Minnesota Department of Transportation is working with partners across the state to help schools and communities develop Safe Routes to School plans and programs.

Last count was 157 students that participated in the event from Challenger, John's, and St. Bernard's elementary schools. It was a great day!



THIEF RIVER FALLS BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY 

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH, 2024

Bike to school on your own or join a Bike Train!  
Kids who want to join the Bike Train to Challenger, St. Bernard's, St John's, Franklin middle school and Lincoln High School. Meet in the Greenwood Trail Parking lot at 7:30am. Volunteers will leave for each school at 7:45am.

   

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### Bike Rodeo and Education at Challenger Elementary School

Bike TRF, Safe Kidz, and TZD teamed up to provide helmet fitting and bicycle training to the 3rd graders in Thief River Falls at the Challenger elementary school. The recently acquired Walk Bike Fun and Safe Kitz bike fleets got a good workout with five 3rd grade classes. The rainy weather was a little concern, but Mother Nature slowly cooperated and provided a great day for the training and bike rodeo. Some of the students had never ridden a bike before, so this introduced them to the world of bike riding. The kids had a blast!



## Enforcement Update:

- Speed: May 1-Sept 2, 2024 (covers 100 deadliest days)
- DWI (optional) Every Thursday-Saturday, May 9—Sept 2, 2024
- Seat belts and child restraints: May 20-June 2, 2024
- DWI: Aug 16—Sept 2, 2024
- Seat belts and child restraints: Sept 15-21, 2024



## ATV/UTV Safety

Did you know that if you were born after July 1, 1987, Minnesota law requires you to complete an approved ATV safety course? Are you aware of the rules and regulations for all ages and types of vehicle? In Minnesota, ATV and UTV safety regulations are essential to ensure safe riding experiences. This time of the year and in this neck of the woods, it is very common to see these types of vehicles on the roads, on trails, at the lake, and most everywhere. A few key points you need to know:

- **Age Restrictions:** If you were born before July 1, 1987, you need to have completed an approved ATV safety course. Individuals aged 10-15 must first complete the ATV Safety Online Course at [ATVcourse.com](https://atvcourse.com) and then attend a Hands-On Safety Class. The hands-on training covers basic ATV operation, environmental protection, common ATV parts, Minnesota rules and laws, and responsible riding skills. Anyone 16 years or older must complete the ATV safety online course at [ATVcourse.com](https://atvcourse.com) (and pay necessary fees online) to meet certification requirements. They are not required to attend the hands-on class
- **Safety Gear:** Always wear a helmet and have adequate eye protection when riding ATVs or UTVs. Follow additional safety guidelines to protect yourself and others.
- **Public Roads:** Riding ATVs or UTVs on public roads in Minnesota is subject to specific rules and restrictions. Make sure to comply with local regulations.

Remember, safety is paramount, so always ride responsibly and follow the rules!



## Mark your Calendars!

- A—Teen TZD Conference—Evangelical Free Church in TRF
- July 17, 2024—TZD Traffic Safety Hotdish (register on [minnesotatzd.org/events/hotdish](https://minnesotatzd.org/events/hotdish))
- Aug 1, 2024—NW Region Steering Meeting—Bemidji MnDOT Headquarters
- Oct 22 & 23, 2024—TZD State Conference—St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center
- Apr 30, 2025—Teen TZD Conference—Evangelical Free Church in TRF
- May 1, 2025—NW Regional Workshop—Thief River Falls Legacy Center

Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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